

Site Visit Programmatic Question
Tapestry – September 12, 2015

1. Update Report

- **Review your two most recently submitted Update Reports: are you meeting Report Count goals?**

Yes, we are meeting our goals for majority of the services. Both reports indicate challenges with the crib and carseat programs as it is difficult to predict how many of the quarterly pregnancy tests will be positive and participate in our prenatal program. Also, the equipment is given only when our clients are 32 weeks pregnant and have attended at least 4 appointments. Because due dates fluctuate, the numbers also fluctuate.

To ensure that we are reaching our goals, we have designed our evaluation to evaluate the transition of positive pregnancy tests into prenatal care. This process will allow Tapestry to ensure that all clients are receiving exceptional care, are aware of our prenatal services, and are assisted with the process and any questions they may have.

The last update form indicated challenges in service areas of education assistance and employment assistance. These are challenges for many of our clients as they have lack of employment opportunities due to lack of education (no GED and no secondary education). This is paired with inaccessible childcare and long waiting lists for assistance through the county. Tapestry continues to work with clients to break down the dysfunctional mindset that welfare is better than searching for stable employment and receiving education. In addition, we have revamped our education curriculum in the areas of financial and career. With this new approach, we hope to be more accessible, more understandable and more attainable for clients to create a plan of action to finish education and develop a career path instead of a job for survival mode.

- **Note any significant differences between the reports: are programs stable? Improving? What do the reports indicate about progress in your programs?**

Many Programs are improving including case management services, education classes (life skills, nutrition, parenting), and mental health. We have noticed a significant increase in case management as we have found the need to add volunteers to help support this program. Education classes continue to grow as we expand curriculum, teaching style, promotion pieces and availability of classes. Mental health attendance has increased as we have found a balance of providing on going counseling and new

intake appointments. Other programs are stable with the occasional ebb and flow with numbers as a result of housing services fluctuating, positive pregnancies and due dates fluctuating, etc.

2. Work Plan

- **Review your 2012-16 grant application's description of the program you are asking to be funded. Note the services and activities you said you would provide and the number of clients you would serve.**
- **Prepare a short summary of your current program(s) and the number of clients being served. How does what you describe in the application compare with what you are currently providing? Have any programs and/or activities or services been added or removed? Have the number of clients being served per quarter decreased or increased since October, 2012? Is there anything particular you want to share about your current program to explain its current status?**

Tapestry continues to provide pregnancy testing, ultrasound services, pregnancy verification for medical assistance and pregnancy education. In addition, we provide material support, case management services (ongoing care in terms of housing, employment, education, financial, peer support), mental health services, and parenting and life skills education.

They have continued to expand their education program to include additional workshops (Love Languages, First Impressions, DISC, Communications, Mommy & Me Story Time, etc). They have also revamped current curriculum to shorten classes and make them more accessible to our clients due to daycare, school, and work schedules. In addition, they have increased the frequency and added variety in the time classes are offered. Finally, they have dedicated more time to promotion of classes through marketing materials, one on one tours and introductions, and offering to register clients into upcoming classes at the conclusion of the current class.

In their mental health department Tapestry has added an additional support group called "Circle of Support." This is an ongoing, open support group meeting 1 day per week. This is designed to be more accessible and attainable for clients. Clients will then be transitioned into the Emotional Health & Healing Workshop after the completion of this group. This will not only create multiple opportunities for clients to receive the support needed, but will also increase numbers as help is more accessible and clients will be more comfortable making an 8 week commitment after working through issues of trust in a nonthreatening environment.

Due to their education program expanding faster than anticipated, their ability to provide free onsite childcare for clients quickly became more than they could manage.

At this time Tapestry has discontinued this service, but are exploring funding opportunities to add an actual daycare center to their line up of services.

Their numbers per quarter continue to increase since October 2012. While specific service areas fluctuate in numbers, the total numbers continue to increase. In addition, demographic report numbers have increased indicating that the number of new clients Tapestry reaches each quarter is increasing, therefore expanding their outreach in our community.

- **Do you anticipate making any changes to the 2015-16 Work Plan? If so, in what way and for what reasons?**

No changes to work plan.

3. Fiscal Review

- **Review of the 2014-15 expenditures spreadsheet**
- **Have you or do you intend to revise your 2015-16 budget justification? Keep in mind that the current budget justification remains in effect until a revision is approved.**

Yes – they would like to discuss using additional funds for Life Empowerment Training through Twin Cities Rise to expand our education curriculum.

- **Review the guidelines regarding expectations for invoice and verification submissions (attached), and the new requirement to submit both to financial for invoice payment. Review MDH's efforts to move to paperless invoicing.**
- **If your Financial Reconciliation has taken place, the findings will be reviewed.**
- **If you have an elevated risk designation, and your report cited any concerns, these will be discussed.**

4. Grant Closeout Form

- You will have an opportunity to review a draft of your Grant Closeout Form.

5. 2014-16 Evaluation (availability of items below depend on date of site visit)

- **Your 2014 Evaluation Report Summary will be discussed.**
- **Your 2015-16 Evaluation Plan will be discussed. Any suggestions provided in your 2013-14 Report Summary should be included in the plan, if you are continuing the same evaluation. If you are planning a new evaluation, details will be discussed.**

Their evaluation plan is similar, but has included changes to ensure they have addressed suggestions from the 2014 Evaluation Report Summary. Their new evaluation will assess Tapestry's process and success in transitioning positive pregnancy tests into prenatal programming. They have determined that 70% of positive tests will attend at least one prenatal appointment. Interventions include one on one sessions with a client advocate during pregnancy test and ultrasound

appointments, and follow up phone calls. This process will allow Tapestry to ensure that all clients are receiving exceptional care, are aware of our prenatal services, and are assisted with the process/questions. We have also revamped our survey to ensure that the data is understandable and measureable. The survey is also simplified to ensure more clients will take the opportunity to give feedback.

6. Positive Alternatives website

- The PA website is being/has been reconfigured. Its scope is reduced. Resources for grantees will remain basically the same.
- Consider providing suggestions for additions/deletions

7. Provide Updates

- Have you made any changes to your application Face Sheet data?
- Do you want to revise your website posting?

8. Issues specific to this grantee

9. Tour of Facility

- If your facility has been remodeled or updated with grant funds, be prepared to provide a tour of the area
- If grant-funded activity areas have been significantly altered, be prepared to provide a tour of the area

10. How can MDH be more supportive of your program?

No suggestion at this time.

11. Other? Tapestry Pregnancy and Family Resource Center has been a grantee since 2012.

Tapestry continues to strive to meet the multifaceted needs of its clients through offering a variety of skills training from life skills, to parenting, and mental health skills and support. They also offer prenatal care through a partnership with Fairview Riverside and medical mentoring with a PA grant funded prenatal nurse. Another key partnership is with Charles Schwab who sends a representative to the Center once per month to help with teaching financial freedom and gives free budget and financial counsel to clients. A mental health program, Circle of Support, is offered weekly through a PA funded therapist. Tapestry has grown considerably and used their PA funding responsibly with the programs and support they offer their clients since they became a PA grantee in 2008.